August 1, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852

Re: 98N-1230; 96P-0418: 97P-0197

We understand the FDA is putting bacteria warning labels on egg cartons. However this is not enough to reduce egg born diseases which cause many illnesses and deaths.

What we feel the FDA should do is prohibit forced molting which promotes disease by destroying the immune systems of starving hens. This practice is just a way for the egg producers to manipulate egg production and certainly does not protect the hens or the public.

We have learned that the FDA was petitioned in April 1998 to ban forced molting. That was over a year ago! We feel the petition should be granted without further delay.

Please look into this matter as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. Hy Fenster

Miand Mrs Hy Ferster

17 W. 20 St.

New York, NY 10011

969-0418

Hy Jenster
17 WEST 20TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10011





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CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 98N-1230/050

See File Number: 97P-0197/C51

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